THE PULSE

Publishing News of the
New England Deaconess Hospital Employees

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AN IMPORTANT DAY

May 22nd was an important day for the employees of the Hospital, for on that day was held the first meeting of the Labor Relations Committee. Representatives of each department, chosen by vote of its personnel, met in Baker Classroom to formally organize this permanent committee. Dr. Cook spoke of the purposes of the organization and his hopes that all matters which we feel are not conducive to good labor relations would be discussed. He stated that some of these problems, which are the outcome of overcrowding or outmoded facilities, will be automatically solved with the erection of a new building and told briefly of plans for the new unit. The meeting was then turned over to the delegates, who voted unanimously to organize as a permanent committee, meeting on the second Tuesday of each month. Miss Gladys Harrison was selected to fill the position of Secretary. The question of Cafeteria meals and prices was brought before the committee and after much discussion it was voted to request Miss Winger to attend the next meeting to assist in further consideration of the matter.

As employees, we feel that a definite step forward has been taken in personnel relations in this democratic, representative type of organization. You are urged to know your departmental representative, consider him as your spokesman, and confer with him on labor problems. He will speak for you at the next meeting. Your problems will be discussed and an attempt will be made to find a solution. Since there is no affiliation with any outside organization, your problems can be taken up with this committee of your fellow-workers and brought directly before your Director.

New England Deaconess Hospital Night at the "Pops" was held on Thursday, May 29th. This annual event, sponsored by the Friends of the Deaconess, has come to mean an especially enjoyable event to many of us. A large number of tables were taken by groups of Hospital Personnel and their friends, who not only welcomed this chance to appreciate the fine music but to contribute in this way to the many worthy causes undertaken by the Organization.

FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE

A surprise party was given Miss Orianna F. Harding on Saturday afternoon, May 24th, at Harris Hall, in honor of the completion of her fifty years of service as a Deaconess. Sixty of the students who had trained under Miss Harding when she was Principal of the Training School for Christian Service attended the annual meeting of their Alumnae Association and at its conclusion paid tribute to her inspiration and leadership. A beautiful corsage, clock, and desk set were presented to her and tea was served. Congratulations, Miss Harding, and best wishes from the entire Hospital Personnel.

WE — THE EMPLOYEES

Administration

Evelyn Wright is the first of our number to "vacation" and spent a week taking a well earned rest at her mother's home in Newport Centre, Vermont.

Two tables were reserved for the Administrative Office Group who attended Pops. The evening was voted a huge success and it was hoped that this would be the start of an annual custom. It seemed like old times to have Beth Paige (fully recovered from her recent accident) with us again, even tho it was at another table.

Blood Bank

We were sorry to lose Connie Waterhouse a few weeks ago. We hope, however, she has a pleasant vacation before taking on that new job in the near future — that of being Mrs. Robert Knell. We wish her all kinds of happiness.

Our new technicians, Ruth Butrick and Martha Wilcox, are rapidly becoming oriented and we hope they will like it here as much as we do.

Engineering and Maintenance

To Mr. Sabine goes the deepest sympathy of the whole Hospital on the recent death of his mother after a long illness.

The whole department takes a proprietory interest in the bowling success of Gene, our electrician. Gene, who is one of our older workers, attends the Tuesday bowling nights faithfully and when he was high man the other evening we all felt like strutting around a bit. He's one person we consider a real sport.

Housekeeping

Mrs. Shea, Assistant Housekeeper, has started on her vacation. We hope that she is greatly enjoying her trip to New York and the South.

Walter Warren recently visited Peter McDermott and brought back very encouraging news. Peter has gained ten pounds and is looking and feeling fine. He would be very glad to hear from anyone who cares to write him. You may procure his address from Miss Dresser.

Laboratory

It's spring, despite weather indications to the contrary. Wedding announcement of Marguerite Boyden to Richard F. Harlow. The engagement of Mary Randall Fay to Jack Hill McCormack of Big Timber, Montana explains why her Christmas card came from Dot-S-Dot Ranch.

Dr. Warren reports surprising progress in the rebuilding of bombed Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Old home week in Chicago. Dr. Meissner delivered a paper at the meeting of the American Association of Pathologists and Bacteriologists. While there he saw many of our former associates including, Drs. Nathan Friedman, Mark Wheelock, John Tullis, Victor Tompkins and Lauren Ackerman.

Lothario is back, we are glad to say.

Laundry

Over ten thousand laundry operators attended the three day Laundry Clinic at Mechanics Building last week. We hope in time that our laundry will have some of this post-war laundry machinery.

The Training Officer of the Veterans Administration reports excellent progress in our laundry trainees — Charles Gould and Jeffie Melder.

Come on, Mr. Emery — you're slipping on your bowling attendance!

Nursing

Miss Shrader, Miss Nelson, Miss Easter and Miss Tipping recently attended the International Nursing Convention in Atlantic City, where representatives were present from 33 countries. We understand that some of these representatives will be visiting the Deaconess before returning to their home countries.

Miss Smith, Matron of St. Thomas' Hospital, London, England, and Miss Gould, its Educational Director, were recent guests of Miss Nelson at the Faculty House, previous to attending the Nursing Convention. St. Thomas' is beloved of all nurses, as it is the hospital where Florence Nightingale founded the first School of Nursing.

Graduation activities for the class of 1947 began with a night at the "Pops" on Thursday, May 15th. As in previous years, the Alumnae were hostesses to the Seniors. On Saturday, May 17th, the Class Banquet was held at Smith House in Cambridge and the next day Baccalaureate services were held at the First Church in Boston, where Rev. Duncan Howlett, minister of the Church, addressed the graduating class. Outstanding on the night of graduation were the speeches by Miss Shrader, Principal of the School; Dr. Richard Sweet, Palmer Staff; Dr. Harold Ockenga, Park Street Church; and Mrs. Alexander Grant, President of the Friends of the Deaconess. Mrs. Grant announced the establishment of a Scholarship Fund by the organization to be used annually. Part of the Fund is to be awarded to students entering the school and part of it is to be presented to graduate nurses for study, or completion of study toward a nursing degree. We of the Nursing School are truly grateful to the Friends for their interest in nursing, and for the opportunities such a scholarship affords. Annual presentations made at Graduation were to Miss Jane Marshall — the Alumnae Scholarship; to Miss Ann Borek — the award for the highest ranking second year student; and to Miss Doris Nichols — the award for the highest ranking first year student. Commencement closed with the Reception to the Graduating Class by the Intermediate Class at the Hotel Puritan on Friday, May 23rd. Our congratulations and best wishes to the Class of 1947 as you go on in the field of Nursing.

It's baby girls for Mrs. Ray Duthie Green, formerly head nurse on Baker 3, on May 17th; for Mrs. Mildred Cady Tinsley, formerly headnurse on Baker 4, on May 19th; and for Mrs. Frances Kendrick Carlson, formerly headnurse on Deaconess 3, on May 20th. For Mrs. Ruby Strang, formerly Secretary to the Nursing Instructors, it was a boy. Congratulations!

Miss Grace Middlemas, recently a patient at Palmer, has asked us to print the following: "As one of the older nurses of the Deaconess, and of late a patient for several weeks in the Hospital, I wish to express my gratitude for the extreme kindness and generosity of everyone employed in the many services at the Hospital."

Social Service

A daughter, Jeanne Edwards Aiken, was born on May 5th to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Aiken of Somerville. We remember Mrs. Aiken as Arline Edwards, formerly a medical social worker here.

Mrs. Blanche Burgess, formerly Admitting Officer, and Mrs. Esther Rosenow, formerly Social Worker, had a get-together with Mrs. Jameson on her recent trip to San Marino, Calif. Both of them send greetings to all their former friends at the Hospital. While in San Francisco, Mrs. Jameson also saw Gertrude Goldberg, formerly Assistant Purchasing Agent, and Emily Plimpton, formerly Supervisor on Palmer 2. They are both attending

the University of California at Berkeley. They also sent their greetings, as did Mrs. Monty Wadey (Lenore Lelley) who is very happily situated in a beautiful new home in Santa Monica.

Twenty-seven children and several adults were given a circus party on Tuesday afternoon, May 20th, under the auspices of the Social Service Department. As it was an entirely new experience for the youngsters in the group, their awed expressions and happy remarks spelled three full hours of enjoyment for one and all. Acting as chaperone, Miss Betty Downey, one of the Social Service Department Secretaries, was grateful to the taxi drivers who were so good natured and considerate in transporting the party to and from the Boston Garden. The entire group expressed their sincere thanks to all who made this treat possible.

STAFF NEWS

A Testimonial Dinner was given on April 25th at the Hotel Kenmore in honor of the sixtieth birthday of Dr. Gilbert Horrax. Twenty-one of the former neurosurgical fellows who had trained with Dr. Horrax were present and a silver plaque, engraved with the signatures of the forty-five fellows who have trained with him was presented to him.

With the death of Dr. George L. Tobey, who until his retirement in 1945 was a member of the Deaconess Staff, the Hospital has lost a friend of long standing.

It was good to see Dr. Overholt among us again, looking tanned and fit. He reports having seen many of the men who trained with him and says they are doing a fine job. No wonder he has that tan — for there were but two rainy days during his three months visit to South America.

Dr. Herbert Adams is expected back from his trip to the West and to Mexico, and we expect he also will show that he has been in a land of sunshine.

About one thousand doctors attended the 166th annual three-day meeting of the Massachusetts Medical Society held at the Hotel Statler on May 21st, 22nd and 23rd. The annual oration was given by Dr. Leland S. McKittrick, Surgeon-in-Chief at Palmer Memorial Hospital.

BOWLING LEAGUE

The bowlers are still enjoying their weekly sessions in spite of the coming of warmer weather. Those who have been attending regularly up to this time have been contributing to a "kitty" and are planning to end the season properly with an outing. Now we all wish we had been attending! On May 20th — the last night for which we have the scores — the Administration Group were in the lead, with their score of 79.75, seconded by the Pharmacy — 77.54, and the Maintenance — 71.31. High scorer for the girls was Pegg Kerrigan — and we mean High, who had a 102, while Sam, as usual, led the men with a score of 103.

EDITORIAL STAFF

MIRIAM E. JACKSON, *Editor*

Marion Lynch, Charles Schraub } *Associates*

Administration ..... CATHERINE GALVIN
Admitting ..... MARION HASKELL
Blood Bank ..... RUTH NEWTON
Chemical Lab. ..... CONSTANCE SELLMAN
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Engineering ..... HERBERT ROBINSON
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Laundry ..... RITA DENNEHY
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X-ray ..... ELEANORE JACOBS